

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 OUAGAD 01474 232141Z

71

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 IO-13 EUR-25 EB-11 IGA-02 SS-15

NSC-10 L-03 H-03 SR-02 ORM-03 A-01 HEW-08 PC-15

RSR-01 /212 W

----- 033130

P R 231750Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDR PRIORITY 6751

INFO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OUAGADOUGOU 1474

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, UV

SUBJ: KENNEDY HEARINGS ON SAHEL DROUGHT

REF: STATE 143473

1. MIGRATION. MAJOR SEGMENT POPULATION THREE
NORTHERNMOST CERCLES (OUT OF TOTAL OF 44) ARE NOMADS AND
MOVED SOUTH IN WINTER AND EARLY SPRING; ESTIMATES RUN AS
HIGH AS 80 PERCENT FOR OUDALAN CERCLE. THESE NOMADS ARE
EXPECTED RETURN AS RAINS GENERATE PASTURE GROWTH IN
NORTH. TEN PERCENT APPEARS REASONABLE ESTIMATE FOR
DEPARTURES FROM NORTH-CENTRAL CERCLES; THESE MIGRANTS
COMPOSED PARTLY OF USUAL MIGRATION OF YOUNG MEN TOWARD
IVORY COAST, PARTLY UNUSUAL MIGRATION OF WHOLE FAMILIES
TO WESTERN AND SOUTHWESTERN UPPER VOLTA. AT SAME TIME,
THERE IS SIGNIFICANT IN-MIGRATION INTO NORTH BY NOMADS
FROM MALI AND NIGER. SOME OF THESE ARE REPORTEDLY
BEGINNING RETURN TO AREAS OF ORIGIN.

2. FOOD DISTRIBUTION. DISTRIBUTION TO VOLTANS
APPEARS BE AS EFFECTIVE AS IT COULD BE, GIVEN
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 OUAGAD 01474 232141Z

WEAKNESSES OF VOLTAN INFRASTRUCTURE AND LIMITED

QUANTITIES OF FOOD RECEIVED RELATIVE TO NEEDS. HOWEVER, LITTLE GRATIS FOOD HAS GONE DIRECTLY TO MIGRANTS. IN NORTH, GRATIS DISTRIBUTION BY GOUV HAS BEEN PRIMARILY TO HOLDERS OF VOLTAN ID CARDS, AT LEAST, ORIGINALLY EXCLUDING IMMIGRANTS FROM MALI AND NIGER. GRATIS DISTRIBUTION OF SORGHUM DOES NOT EXTEND TO AREAS RECEIVING IN-VOLTAN MIGRANTS BECAUSE THOSE AREAS NOT AS SERIOUSLY DROUGHT-STRICKEN. THESE MIGRANTS MAY BUY SOME OF US SORGHUM PROVIDED UNDER STABILIZATION PROGRAM AND SOLD AT SUBSIDIZED PRICE BY GOUV, BUT TO WHAT EXTENT THIS ACTUALLY HAPPENS IS UNKNOWN. CERTAIN AREAS IN FAR NORTH WERE UNABLE STOCK GRAIN BEFORE RAINS MADE THEM INACCESSIBLE BY TRUCK. IN JULY BELGIAN C-130 DROPPED 220 TONS US SORGHUM BY PARACHUTE ON 15 OF THESE LOCALITIES. AMEMBASSY AND GERMAN TRANSALL AIRCRAFT NOW EXPERIMENTING WITH FREE-FALL AIRDROP METHODS, PLANNING CARRY OUT DROPS IN NORTH IN EARLY AUGUST. PCV'S WILL PARTICIPATE IN PREPARING BAGS FOR DROP. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, THESE ARE ONLY AIRDROP ACTIVITIES TO DATE IN SAHEL.

3. DISEASE. SUSPECTED CHOLERA CASES THROUGH JULY 15 AMOUNT TO 552 CASES IN DORI REGION WITH 152 DEATHS PLUS 104 CASES WITH 8 DEATHS IN OUAGADOUGOU. INITIAL OUTBREAK AT DORI APPEARS POSSIBLY RELATED TO CONCENTRATION OF REFUGEES THERE, WHICH AGGRAVATED HYGIENIC PROBLEMS CREATING SITUATION NEARLY IDEAL FOR SPREAD OF EPIDEMIC DISEASE. GOUV HEALTH MINISTRY IS CONTINUING VACCINATION CAMPAIGN AGAINST CHOLERA, BUT INTERRUPTIONS IN TRANSPORT DUE TO RAINS HAMPER EFFORTS OUTSIDE MAIN CENTERS. RETURN OF NOMAD REFUGEES TO AREAS OF ORIGIN WILL PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR SPREAD OF CHOLERA TO NEW AREAS. MEASLES OUTBREAK, CENTERED IN EASTERN UPPER VOLTA, IS NOT CONSIDERED RELATED TO DROUGHT, ALTHOUGH UNDERNOURISHMENT MAY HAVE ACCENTUATED MORTALITY RATE.

4. NUTRITION. CDC REP LEONARD IS JUST BEGINNING HIS FIELD WORK, HAVING ONLY COVERED OUAHIGOUYA CERCLE. MOST CHILD MEASUREMENTS THERE FAIL SHOW FAMINE; HOWEVER, THE SAMPLE IS SMALL, AND THIS CERCLE MAY NOT BE TYPICAL BECAUSE OUAHIGOUYA TOWN IS READILY REACHED BY ROAD AND IS MAIN CENTER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 OUAGAD 01474 232141Z

FOR DISTRIBUTION RELIEF COMMODITIES. QUICK CLINICAL SURVEY FOR SYMPTOMS OF MARASMUS (CHILD NUTRITIONAL DISEASE TYPICALLY ASSOCIATED WITH STARVATION) WAS MADE IN NEIGHBORING GOURCY AND YAKO CERCLES IN MAY-JUNE. FRENCH INVESTIGATING PHYSICIAN FOUND 20 PERCENT TO 30 PERCENT OF CHILDREN TESTED HAD SYMPTOMS CONSISTENT WITH MARASMUS DIAGNOSIS. THIS RESULT IS SIGNIFICANT SINCE THESE CERCLES ARE ON SOUTHERN FRINGE OF DROUGHT ZONE AND WOULD

BE EXPECTED TO BE BETTER OFF THAN AREAS FARTHER NORTH.

5. USG EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE IN HEALTH FIELD: 60,000
DOSES MEASLES VACCINE PROVIDED IN MAY; 50,000
TETRACYCLINE TABLETS (250 MG) ALREADY AIRSHIPPED TO
UPPER VOLTA; ONE MILLION MULTI-VITAMIN DOSES ON ORDER;
AND MOBILE HOSPITAL REQUESTED FROM AID/W FOR INSTALLATION
AT DJIBO, IN CENTER DROUGHT ZONE.

6. LOCAL AND VOLAG ACTIVITY. GOUV NATIONAL
DROUGHTY RELIEF COMMISSION HANDLES DISTRIBUTION FOREIGN
OFFICIAL (AND SOME PRIVATE) DROUGHT RELIEF AID. LOCAL
RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES HAVE ACTIVE CAMPAIGN TO HELP STRICKEN
AREA, AND CATHOLIC AND OTHER MISSIONS ARE DOING WHAT THEY
CAN. LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES (GENEVA) HAS BEEN
ACTIVE, INCLUDING FINANCING LENGTHENING ONE AIRPORT
RUNWAY IN NORTH AND PROVIDING VEHICLES. ONGOING AMERICAN
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS) PROGRAM INCLUDING MOTHER/
CHILD HEALTH, SCHOOL FEEDING AND FOOD-FOR-WORK SUPPLIED
250 TO 300 TONS OF FOODSTUFFS TO THESE PROGRAMS IN DROUGHT
AREA DURING JANUARY-JUNE 1973. CRS DISTRIBUTION NETWORK
WAS USED BY EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND IN PLANNING
DISTRIBUTION OF 1,800 TONS POWDERED MILK DONATED BY EEC.
CRS HAS RECEIVED OVER \$40,000 GRANTS FROM PRIVATE AMERICAN
AND EUROPEAN DONORS FOR FAMINE RELIEF. THESE USED
PRINCIPALLY TO PAY TRANSPORT COSTS FOR PRIVATELY DONATED
SUPPLIES. CRS UPPER VOLTA ALSO RECEIVED MEDICAL SUPPLIES
VALUED AT ABOUT \$50,000, WHICH IS DESTINED FOR MEDICAL
FACILITIES IN FAMINE AREA OPERATED BY GOUV RURAL HEALTH
DEPARTMENT.
EASIM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973OUAGAD01474
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: OUAGADOUGOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730716/aaaaaluf.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 143473
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Oct-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KENNEDY HEARINGS ON SAHEL DROUGHT
TAGS: EAID, UV
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005